

In the Claims:

1. A convertible enclosure for use over a hot tub, spa, and the like comprising:

a first mounting shaft projecting substantially upward along a first side of the spa, the first mounting shaft having an outer circumferential surface;

a second mounting shaft projecting substantially upward along an opposite second side of the hot tub, the second mounting shaft having an outer circumferential surface;

an elongated first whip device having a base, an opposite distal end, and a circumferential face contacting the circumferential surface of the first mounting shaft;

an elongated second whip device having a base, an opposite distal end, and a circumferential face contacting the circumferential surface of the second mounting shaft;

a first fastener engaged between the distal end of the first whip device and the spa;

a second fastener engaged between the distal end of the second whip device and the spa; and

a canopy extended between the first and second whip devices.

2. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 1 wherein the first and second whip devices are yieldably bent over the respective first and second sides of the spa and the respective first and second fasteners are under tension.

3. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 1 wherein the first whip device is constructed and arranged to slide in a clockwise direction with respect to the first mounting shaft placing the canopy under tension.

4. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 3 wherein the second whip device is constructed and arranged to slide in a counter clockwise direction with respect to the second mounting shaft placing the canopy under tension.

5. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 1 comprising:
the first and second whip devices being yieldably bent over the respective first and second sides of the spa and the respective first and second fasteners are under tension;

the first whip device being constructed and arranged to slide in a clockwise direction with respect to the first mounting shaft; and

the second whip device being constructed and arranged to slide in a counter clockwise direction with respect to the second mounting shaft placing the canopy under tension.

6. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 5 wherein the first and second fasteners are resiliently stretchable cords.

7. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 1 comprising an elongated rigid cross member extended and engaged between the distal ends of the first and second whip devices.

8. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 5 comprising:

the bases of the first and second whip devices being hollow tubes co-extending with the respective first and second shafts and carrying the circumferential faces;

an elongated flex rod of the first whip device having the opposite distal end and a base end removeably slipped axially into the hollow tube; and

an elongated flex rod of the second whip device having the opposite distal end and a base end removeably slipped axially into the hollow tube.

9. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 8 wherein the circumferential faces of the hollow tubes of the first and second whip devices define an axially extending recess for seating of the respective first and second shafts.

10. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 9 wherein the recesses of the hollow tubes of the first and second whip devices each have a radius of curvature which substantially equals a radius of the respective first and second shafts.

11. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 9 comprising:

at least one tie wrap of the first whip device wrapped snugly about the tube and the first shaft; and

at least one tie wrap of the second whip device wrapped snugly about the tube and the second shaft.

12. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 1 comprising:
a spa cover removal mechanism having the first and second shafts; and
wherein the first and second shafts extend substantially vertical when
the spa cover is in a removed position.

13. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 5 comprising:
a spa cover removal mechanism having the first and second shafts; and
wherein the first and second shafts extend substantially vertical when
the spa cover is a removed position.

14. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 8 comprising friction
inducing sleeves fitted radially between the base ends and the hollow tubes of the first
and second whip devices.

15. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 7 comprising a spacer bar
extending vertically between the spa and the cross member.

16. A convertible awning for use over a hot tub, spa, and the like
comprising:

a spa cover removal mechanism having a first shaft located pivotally at
a side of the spa, a second shaft located pivotally at an opposite side of the spa, an
enclosed position wherein a cover of the spa is placed directly over the spa, and a
removed position wherein the cover is off of the spa and the first and second shafts
project substantially vertically;

a first removeable flex rod projecting upward from the first shaft and resiliently bent over the spa when the spa cover removal mechanism is in the removed position;

a second removeable flex rod projecting upward from the second shaft and resiliently bent over the spa when the spa cover removal mechanism is in the removed position; and

a canopy spaced above the spa and engaged between the first and second flex rods.

17. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 16 comprising:

a distal end of the first flex rod;

a distal end of the second flex rod; and

a cross member spaced above the spa and engaged between the distal ends of the first and second flex rods.

18. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 17 comprising a vertical spacer bar engaged between the spa and the cross member.

19. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 18 comprising a tie wrap for fastening the spacer bar to the cross member.

20. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 18 comprising panels draped downward from the canopy.

21. The convertible enclosure set forth in claim 18 comprising an angled brace engaged between the spacer bar and the cross member.